

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

The amendments to this patent application are as follows. Claims 4, 5, and 6 have been cancelled, and the subject matter thereof has been incorporated into independent claim 1. Claim 1 has also been amended to cancel the objected-to terminology "particularly for." Claim 7 has been amended to revise the dependency from now cancelled claim 6 to depend now from independent claim 1. Claim 13 was amended to be dependent from claim 8, which recites a secondary flow filter.

Claim 15 has been amended to revise the dependency from claim 10 to depend now from claim 13.

For all these reasons, all the claims are now believed to be in complete compliance with all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 13, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Schelhas et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,672,288).

On Page 4 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner has rejected claims 8-12 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over *Schelhas '288* in view of *Belgarde et al* (U.S. Patent No. 2,995,253).

On Page 6 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner has indicated that claims 6 and 7 are merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

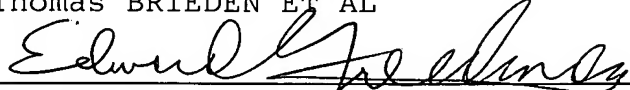
Because independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of claim 6, amended claim 1 is believed to be allowable, along with all the claims which are dependent upon claim 1.

For these reasons, these prior art rejections of the claims have now been rendered moot, have been overcome, and should be withdrawn.

For all these reasons, none of the prior art references provide an identical disclosure of the claimed invention. Hence, the present invention is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102, but is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103, over all the prior art applied by the Patent Examiner.

A prompt notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

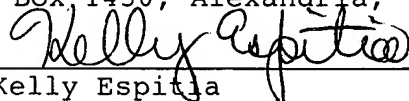
Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 11, 2006.


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